



TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

JULIUS JOHNSON
COMMISSIONER

DIVISION OF CONSUMER &
INDUSTRY SERVICES
ANIMAL HEALTH

MEMORANDUM

TO: Fair Officials

FROM: Charles Hatcher, DVM
State Veterinarian

DATE: June 30, 2014

RE: Fair Biosecurity and Protective Measures

Tis fair season again and with the advent of Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea (PED) and the existing threat of H3N2 influenza virus, it's a good time to review protective measures for both people and animals attending Tennessee fairs and exhibitions.

Only healthy animals and people should be on the fairgrounds. Any sick animals with fever or diarrhea should be sent home and reported to the state veterinarian's office at 615- 837-5120. Please review, implement and distribute as needed the attached or enclosed swine health and biosecurity recommendations for exhibit organizers and exhibitors provided by the National Pork Board.

Also, be aware of the potential exposure of fair attendees to E. coli 0157 from animals exhibited on the fairgrounds.

Below is a summary of recommendations for fair management by the National Assembly of State Animal Health Officials and the National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians to better protect fair attendees from disease:

- Provide easy access to hand washing stations.
- Post informational signage that includes the following messages:
 - No eating or drinking in the animal areas.
 - Wash hands frequently.
 - No pacifiers, sipping cups or strollers in the animal exhibition areas.
- Discourage sleeping in the animal exhibition areas.
- If human or swine influenza-like-illness is associated with the exhibition, animal health and public health officials should be notified immediately.
- People who have influenza-like illness should leave the exhibition immediately and seek medical care. They should advise their health care provider about their fair attendance.
- People at high risk for developing severe complications from influenza should limit their exposure to swine.